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13 FEB 1961

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Mr. Russell V. Downing
The Council of Motion Picture Organizations, Inc.
1501 Broadway
New York 36, New York

Dear Mr. Downing:

Thank you for your letter of 2 February 1961, telling me about the testimonial dinner for Eric Johnston next April 10, and inviting me to serve on the honorary committee for that occasion.

I regret that I will not be able to serve with you on your distinguished committee. I have long adhered to the practice, while in this official position, not to undertake to serve on honorary committees.

I am nevertheless very pleased, indeed, to have received your invitation, and to be counted among the friends of Eric Johnston, and I wish you every success in your project to do him proper honor.

Sincerely,

SIGNED

Allen W. Dulles
Director

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O/DCI/SJGrogan:abk(13 Feb 61)

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TESTIMONIAL DINNER
HONORING
ERIC JOHNSTON

in celebration of his 15th Anniversary
in the motion picture industry

Sponsored by

THE COUNCIL OF MOTION PICTURE ORGANIZATIONS, INC.
1501 BROADWAY, NEW YORK 36, N. Y. • WISCONSIN 7-8920

February 2, 1961

THE HON. DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER
Honorary Chairman

DINNER COMMITTEE:

RUSSELL V. DOWNING, *Chairman*

BEN MARCUS

ABE MONTAGUE

SAMUEL PINANSKI

Governing Committee, COMPO

HARRY BRANDT, *President*
Independent Theatre Owners Assoc.

FRANK CAPRA, *President*
Directors Guild of America, Inc.

GEORGE CHANDLER, *President*
Screen Actors Guild

VALENTINE DAVIES, *President*
Academy of Motion Picture
Arts & Sciences

IRVING DOLLINGER
Allied States Assoc.
of M.P. Exhibitors

EDWARD EMANUEL, *Chief Barker*
Variety Clubs International

KEN ENGLUND, *President*
Screen Writers Branch
Writers Guild of America, West, Inc.

Y. FRANK FREEMAN
Association of
Motion Picture Producers

HERMAN KENIN, *President*
American Federation of Musicians

CURTIS KENYON, *President*
Writers Guild of America, West, Inc.

WALTER M. MIRISCH, *President*
Screen Producers Guild

ALBERT M. PICKUS, *President*
Theatre Owners of America

LESLIE R. SCHWARTZ, *President*
Metropolitan Motion Picture
Theatres Assoc.

SOL A. SCHWARTZ, *Chairman*
American Congress of Exhibitors

RICHARD WALSH, *President*
International Alliance of
Theatrical Stage Employees

The Honorable Allen W. Dulles
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Dulles:

In behalf of the motion picture industry the Council of Motion Picture Organizations is sponsoring a dinner honoring Eric Johnston in observance of his 15th anniversary in the motion picture industry. It will be held at the Waldorf Astoria Hotel, New York City, the evening of April 10, 1961.

It is my pleasure to invite you to become a member of the honorary committee for which, as you will observe, former President Dwight D. Eisenhower is honorary chairman. It is our intention to have this committee representative not only of every phase of the motion picture business but of all American business and government.

I shall appreciate hearing from you no later than February 15 and hope for your acceptance. Should your reply not be received by that date we shall assume that you do accept and list your name as a member of the honorary committee.

Thank you so much for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

Russell V. Downing

APRIL 10, 1961, WALDORF-ASTORIA HOTEL, N. Y. CITY

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<p>For your information and preparation of an appropriate reply for the Director's signature.</p> <p>SUSPENSE: 13 February 1961</p>					
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